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INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT 1. Grotewohl's Vacation
2. Proposed Restriction on Residence and Employment

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1. During the absence of Otto Grotewohl on vacation, his Party work is being handled by Karl Schirdewan. Prior to his departure, Grotewohl stated that when he and Wilhelm Pieck return from leave they will clear up "certain unpleasant situations" in the Central Committee of the SED. Just before leaving, Grotewohl gathered together a number of files from several safes and locked them in a special safe, saying that in his absence no one was to touch these papers.
2. Friedrich Ebert is at present finishing work on a plan to be presented at a future meeting of the Politburo, providing for sharp measures to be taken against persons living in East Berlin and working in West Berlin. This plan will be accompanied by an analysis showing that since 1949 many specialists from East Germany have received permission to live and work in East Berlin, and that many of them continued to live in East Berlin but went to work in West Berlin without authorization.

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